

Docket No.: NEB-154

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Evans EXAMINER: W. Moore
APPLICATION NO.: 09/249,543 GROUP: 1652
FILED: February 19, 1999
FOR: Intein-Mediated Protein Ligation Of Expressed Proteins

The Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE B

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 23, 2002, please amend the above-identified Application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-3 and add new claims 31-61 as follows:

- Sub D2*
- C1*
1. A method for ligating a first expressed protein with a second protein, the method comprising the steps of:
 - (a) generating a first target protein having a C-terminal thioester, wherein the target protein is expressed in a host cell;
 - (b) generating a second target protein having a specified N-terminal; and
 - (c) combining the first target protein with the second target protein in a mixture;
 - (d) ligating the first and the second target protein in the mixture.

07/01/2002 DTHOAS 00000001 140740 09249543

01 FC:203 90.00 CH
02 FC:202 168.00 CH